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Conservation Commission Minutes 05/17/2007

ARLINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

MAY 17, 2007

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Ellen Reed, Nathaniel Stevens, David White, Judith Hodges, Tim Sullivan of the Commission as was Associate Member Chuck Tirone. Catherine Garnett and William O'Rourke of the Commission were absent. Present were John and Mary McCann, of Belmont, representing his mother at 30 Spy Pond Parkway; Amy Hedler of 45 Hopkins Rd, and Calvin Layton of Northern Tree Service, representative for the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

7:30 p.m. - COMMISSION BUSINESS

Someone has installed a duck blind on the Window on the Mystic conservation land.

7:45 p.m. – 30 SPY POND PARKWAY – NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE for removal of shoreline vegetation

Mr. McCann, representing his elderly mother who lives at the house, explained his work to control Phragmites along the shoreline of Spy Pond. For the past few years, he has cut, by hand, the stalks and attempted to cover the stumps with two layers of tarps which are weigh down with bricks. One smaller section, more up on the shoreline has already been cut and he has also installed ground cloth and bark mulch to keep this area clear of the Phragmites. The entire patch is approximately 30 feet big, a third of which is presently cut, roughly 10 feet or so.

Mr. Stevens instructed to Mr. McCann that this is work in our jurisdiction and therefore requires a permit from the Conservation Commission. He recommended the issuance of an Enforcement Order for present and for the McCanns to submit an application for a permit to the Commission no later than by June 7 for review at the June 21 meeting.

Ms. Beckwith agreed to walk the shoreline to inspect for sedges.

White/Hodges motioned to issue an Enforcement Order to file for a permit by 6/7; Ms. Hodges, Mr. White, Ms. Reed and Mr. Stevens approved, Mr. Sullivan opposed; motion was approved.

8:00 p.m. – WORKING SESSION – 45 HOPKINS RD – fence installed in Buffer Zone

Ms. Hedler explained that she had 15 feet of wooden fence installed to control access to the shoreline path on her property.

The shoreline path has been there for the past 60 or 70 years. John Maher, Town Counsel, confirms that the path is not Town owned land. Ms. Hedler will get a letter from her reality lawyer describing the deeded property boundary as the shore of Spy Pond.

The board confirmed that the work needs to have a Notice of Intent filed for landscaping work and the fence installation.

8:45pm MYSTIC RIVER RESERVATION and ALEWIFE BROOK RESERVATION – REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY for a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

Mr. Sullivan abstained from this portion of the meeting, as the DCR is a client of his employer.

Mr. Layton explained that the spraying program would occur at night in order avoid pedestrians and other pathway users. The

yellow markers installed to demarcate the wetlands can be field confirmed by Ms. Beckwith.

Mr. Layton will forward the Yearly Operating Plan when it is completed and will send us notification of the start date of the program.

Mr. Layton also agreed to submit a report on usage amounts of chemical treatments that is outline in the Integrated Pest Management portion of the VMP.

The operation will be staged in Stoneham at DCR's yard.

White/Hodges motioned to approve the program and issue a negative Determination of Applicability; Ms. Hodges, Mr. White and Mr. Stevens approved, Ms. Reed opposed; motion passed.

COMMISSION BUSINESS - Continued

Mr. Tirone reported that the construction work at Dudley St appears to be very different from the permitted plan. Ms. Beckwith will contact the environmental consultant who filed the permit and get a response to this information.

Mr. Tirone reported that the erosion controls need to be maintained at the Brattle St construction site.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith
Administrator